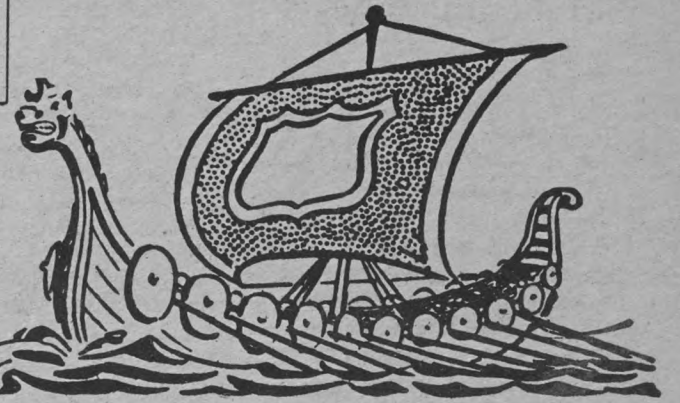


Scandinavian Centre News



PUBLISHED BY THE SCANDINAVIAN CENTRE CO-OPERATIVE ASSOCIATION

VOL. XVII No. 4

If undelivered return to:
14220 - 125 Avenue Edmonton, Alberta T5L 3C2

May, 1977

Sons of Norway dedicate ground for Camrose Viking Cultural Centre

A very impressive ceremony was held at 4:00 p.m., Saturday, April 16, with approximately 150 persons in attendance to see the sod turned and a tree planted on the 4½ acres of land owned by Ronning Lodge, Sons of Norway, in Camrose.

The building site, just west of the Camrose Ski Club, faces a scenic valley where many people from this area having skied and walked for over 75 years. This area also holds many fond memories for a great number of people who were present Saturday.

Harv Haugen, 4th District Counsellor for Sons of Norway, was Master of Ceremonies. Mr. Haugen called on the following distinguished

guests to turn the sod: His Worship Mayor Rudy Swanson, Mr. Amund Jonassen, Royal Norwegian Consul from Calgary, Mr. Arnold Malone, Federal Member of Parliament, Mr. Gordon Stromberg, M.L.A., Mr. Paul Gotaas, Charter Member of Tjere Viken and Ronning Lodge, Mr. Herman Torpe, Honourary Member of Ronning Lodge, Mr. Sig Sorenson, Honourary President of the Edmonton Scandinavian Centre who organized Ronning Lodge, Mr. Al Bourree, President of the Cultural Centre, Mr. Clair Foss, President of Ronning Lodge, Mr. Albert Hansen of A. Hansen & Sons Construction, and Pastor Hausen, who was

then called upon for the dedication.

Following the sod-turning a reception and dinner for the honoured guests was held. Included were Charter Members of Tjere Viken Lodge which started in Camrose in 1926 and Honourary Members of Ronning Lodge. The day concluded with a dance.

The Camrose Viking Cultural Centre is a charitable organization for the benefit of the community, sponsored by Ronning Lodge. Besides being a much needed facility in the community, some of the aims are to provide a scholarship to the Camrose Lutheran College, support a youth group, as well as teach cross-country skiing, etc.

Centre in the catering business as of April 10

Mother's Day Dinner has to be cancelled

On April 3rd Club Mocombo Catering gave notice that April 9th would be their last night at the Centre. We were taken completely by surprise, and we were in real trouble as it was not possible to cancel any bookings on such short notice.

Because our Manager is the kind of man he is, he stepped in immediately himself, and he and his wife did the cooking themselves until some competent kitchen staff could be obtained to assist. At the same time he is organizing and forming a permanent banquet staff from people who replied to an ad in the Edmonton Journal.

It has been a very difficult three weeks and will be difficult for some weeks to come, and it is therefore with regret that the Board of Directors has decided that the annual Mother's Day Dinner must be cancelled. The previous week is heavily booked, and it will take some time yet to obtain enough efficient and reliable people to handle the amount of work

involved.

On Monday morning, April 11th, the total amount of food in stock at the Centre was three cans of milk; while the cooking itself was a big enough problem to surmount, buying the food for the functions which were booked, as well as all the unexpected extras, was also a monumental problem. Peter Elander somehow managed it, however, and we are confident that everything will fall into place given a little time.

The Board of Directors has received seven applications from Denmark for the position of chef and are doing everything possible to expedite the matter.

Our outlook is optimistic - the Board has long been of the opinion that the Centre should be in the food service business itself....that not only would this make it possible for us to provide authentic Scandinavian food, but would also increase our revenues considerably. We did, however, hope to make the transition more smoothly.



Mr. Paul Gotaas, Charter Member of Tjere Viken and Ronning Lodge, turning sod for Camrose Viking Cultural Centre.

SPLINTERS from the BOARD

Centre Operations

As you will have read on the front page, we are now in our own catering business and this subject was discussed at great length by the Board. We are indeed fortunate in having the kind of Manager we have - Peter and Lilly pitched right in and did the cooking alone until additional kitchen staff could be obtained, and are still hard at it. At the same time Peter is recruiting and organizing a permanent banquet staff. We have seven applications from Denmark for the position of chef and we are endeavouring to make the necessary arrangements just as quickly as possible.

Centre Administration

Our Administration Chairman has agreed to take on a public relations job for the Centre as part of her duties and will be making follow-up phone calls after functions are held in the Centre to thank the people who have used our facilities for doing so. We think it will be effective in assuring repeat business.

Centre Maintenance

We are going to be faced with substantial maintenance costs during the coming months: the south wall is badly in need of repair and the roof will have to be completely redone in the very near future.

Scandinavian Centre News

We are in the process of converting the small office for the publishing of this newspaper and are installing the minimum amount of equipment which will be necessary, but even that will be expensive. Although initially it will cost us more to do our own publishing, in the long run it will be less expensive. But we do need money and it is therefore with reluctance that it was decided we must charge the lodges for papers which are mailed to their non-shareholder members, effective July 1st.

Charter Flights

Vera Nielsen has done her usual top-notch job in selling our summer flights, and this is one area we are always able to count on.

Intergroup Liaison

An Intergroup meeting with the lodges has been called for April 26th, in order to keep all our groups informed of current happenings and hopefully acquire some new ideas and suggestions.

Mother's Day Dinner

Because of the current difficult situation with regard to catering the Board has decided there is no choice but to cancel the event for this year. Next year it will be back better than ever, for by that time we expect to have a food service that is in full swing and over which we have complete control.

SUMMARY OF INCOME AND EXPENSE SCANDINAVIAN CENTRE COOPERATIVE ASSOCIATION LTD. THREE MONTHS ENDED MARCH 31, 1977

INCOME		
Hall Rentals		\$6846
Corkage		3754
Catering Commisions and foods		4120
Miscellaneous		222
		<u>14,942</u>
EXPENSE		
Advertising	424	
Repairs and Maintenance	2019	
Salaries	4852	
Casual wages	2951	
Taxes and Insurance	2840	
Utilities and Telephone	1517	
Mix and Ice	1630	
Supplies	992	
Office and other	785	
		<u>18,010</u>
Hall Loss Before Depreciation		3068
OTHER		
Scandapades '77 profit	(685)	
Meetings expense	625	
Audit	400	
Newspaper Loss	1130	
		<u>1470</u>
Net Loss Before Depreciation		4538

APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP SCANDINAVIAN CLUB VIKING

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CITY _____

PHONE _____ POST. CODE _____

Mail coupon to membership director:

Mrs. Lili Nielsen
3903 - 111A Street
Edmonton, Alberta T6J 1G2

Royal Danish Guards Association

Western Canada

On the Bulletin Board at the Scandinavian Centre, you may have seen a notice about getting "Gamle Gardere" to join the Western Canadian Branch of the Royal Danish Guards Association.

The Western Canadian Branch has been going strong since 1944, but it seems that it is hard to get anybody from the Edmonton area to join, therefore the recent appeal into this area.

This fall (late September) the foreman for the Danish Parent-organization: De danske gardereforeninger, Kammerherre, Oberst Gustav Gruner and his wife will visit all the North American Guards Association, and it is going to be a great honour to welcome them in Calgary. Later on we'll have our annual get-together (late October), this is usually a 2-day Week-end affair with a shooting competition for 2 trophies at the Mewata Armories, and culminating in a Semi-Formal dinner and dance at the Calgary Inn. We also usually have a cozy evening at one of the member's homes with lots of laughs, smorrebrod, beer and snaps.

We'll have a picnic here at my place at Alhambra, 13 miles east of Rocky Mtn. House, some week-end in July; please contact me for directions and exact time of the picnic. If you phone, noon-hour might be best.

All you old guards don't forget: Eengang garder, altid garder!

And it doesn't matter how old or how young you are either.

Svend A. Strom
R.R.#1 Alhambra
Alberta, T0M 0C0.
Phone 729-2253.

Editor's Note

My sincere apologies to those advertisers whose copy was inadvertently missed from the April issue of the paper, and to those correspondents whose copy was not complete. We are now a little better organized and hopefully these kinds of things will not happen again. I also want to thank our readers for their support and forbearance, and assure all of you that we will try our very best to constantly improve.

HONOURARY PRESIDENT

Sig Sorenson
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Edmonton, Alberta T6C 0L8
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CLUB VIKING — Peter Elander, President, Scandinavian Centre 453-5145 & 453-5146, #1414 Crescent Place, Edmonton 452-3907

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Cost of advertising is \$3.00 per column inch.

Each member of the Scandinavian Centre receives the Scandinavian Centre News each month for life. Non-members may subscribe at \$6.00 annually, payable to the Treasurer of the Scandinavian Centre and addressed to the Scandinavian Centre News. Scandinavian groups, societies, organizations, associations, or clubs may receive the paper by sending a list of members' names and addresses to the paper. A charge of 10 cents per copy will be charged to pay the cost of mailing.

Any advertising, payment, change of address or other correspondence should be addressed to: The Scandinavian Centre News, 14220-125 Avenue, Edmonton, Alberta. T5L 3C2.

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VASA LODGE SKANDIA



By Gertie Holmgren

With our chairman, Ray Nyroos in the chair, our regular April meeting was held in the Dania Room on April 2.

Five new members were initiated into our order. We welcome Peggy and Jim Rac, Jim and Shirley Huffman and Franco Salerno. The land committee reported that the freeze on lots at Vasa park would remain for one more year. Gertie Holmgren received a pin for recommending 5 new members last fall.

Bingo followed the meeting, winners being Lennart Peter-

sson, Anna Dodd, Minnie Markstrom, Erik Engvall, Martha Kay, Harold Markstrom, Milton Fawcett and Ray Nyroos.

Our next meeting will be on May 7th. Films will follow the meeting.

On March 12th, Ruth Bergquist received a gold ring as an award for ten years service with the Edmonton Journal. This annual affair was held in the Eldorado Room of the MacDonald Hotel.

On March 5th, Grant McAu-

ley and Jocelyn Beauchesne were united in marriage in the Holy Trinity Church in Calgary. After the wedding a reception for the family was held at the Club Romeo and Juliette. Later the couple left for a honeymoon in Hawaii. The bride is the daughter of Mrs. Jean Beauchesne and the groom is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Ray McAuley of Edmonton. The couple will reside in Taber. Grant has been transferred to Taber as manager of his company, Pee Vee Mart.

TRAVELLERS

Mary Pearson visited her sister in Las Vegas for a few weeks, then joined her daughter and son-in-law Lillian and Mike Collins and their family for a visit to Disneyland during the spring break.

Linda Hazelwood spent her spring break at Point Roberts, Washington with Al and Anna Rosinski.

Some of our members visiting Hawaii include Bert and Vi Watson and Trudy and Andy McEvoy.

Erling Winkvist and Jody and Todd spent the spring break skiing at Jasper. Sonja and Rudy Sund and Douglas spent Easter at Jasper skiing.

Anne Sorensen spent three weeks in Stockholm, Sweden visiting her mother. As it was her mother's Birthday, Anne had planned this trip as a surprise and a very pleasant surprise it was, not only for mother but for Anne's brothers and sisters too. Anne said there was snow in Stockholm when she arrived but when she left on March 27, the snow was gone. When she arrived home in St. Albert it was spring break time and Soren and the kids were leaving for Jasper for a week of skiing, so after that lovely trip to Sweden, Anne also got a week of skiing at Jasper.

Gunnar and Joan Okerman are proud grandparents. Their first grandson, Robert Kenneth Okerman arrived on April 5th, weighing in at 7 lbs. 13 ozs. Ken and Carol Okerman are the proud parents. Congratulations to all of you.

Stockholm's 52 museums collect the collectors

With more than 50 highly specialized museums, Stockholm has become a magnet for dedicated collectors, be they streetcar or steamer buffs, coin or stamp specialists, admirers of unusual beer cans or Stone Age ceramics.

Philately has millions of followers the world over - and many have probably followed the cobblestoned alleys of Stockholm's Old Town to one of Europe's finest stamp museums.

According to Scandinavian Airlines, everything about the Stockholm Postal Museum at Lilla Nygatan 6 seems to have a particular interest for philatelists and historians. Even the building itself has belonged to the postal authorities since the early 1700's.

The museum is noted for a comprehensive library of books and journals on stamp collecting, some over a century old. An exhibit tracing and development of postal services - Sweden had a general postal service as early as 1636 - contains such authentic relics as an elegant mail coach from the late nineteenth century.

The main attraction is the stamp collection, among the largest in the world. The collection contains a number of exceptional rarities, including two 1847 Mauritius stamps of which few specimens survive, a quarter sheet of 4-skilling banco stamps, the largest such uncancelled block in existence, and the first English stamp, on a cover cancelled on the day of issue in May 1840.

Among the exclusive collector's items to be found in Stockholm is the showcase of ancient Chinese art at the Museum of Far Eastern Antiquities on Skeppsholmen,

across the harbor from the Royal Palace.

Sweden has a long tradition within the field on sinological studies. The finds of several leading scholars such as Professors J.G. Andersson and Bernard Karlgren, gathered during their China travels earlier this century, form the bulk of the museum's treasures.

The museum also owes much to the efforts, enthusiasm and support of the late King Gustaf VI Adolf, himself a keen collector and authority on Chinese Art. Some 1,800 new acquisitions from the late King's excellent private collection are gradually being added to the museum's exhibits.

The museum has well over 100,000 items of antique Oriental art, with the Chinese exhibit spanning from Stone Age ceramics dating from around 2000 C.B., to items from the Ch'ing dynasty as recent as 1900 AD.

The collection is remarkable for its scope and balance, with fine specimens from within all art forms - jade pieces, vessels and figurines in bronze, ceramics, paintings, carvings in wood, ivory and horns, Chinese Lacquer, glassware, sculpture, and even an interesting collection of such paraphernalia as mirrors and dress hooks.

Coin collectors will thrive on the Viking treasures of the Royal Coin Cabinet at the national Museum of Monetary History on Narvavagen. Exhibits include Arabic, German and English coins from the ninth and tenth centuries discovered among Viking ruins on the Baltic Island of Gotland, as well as the earliest Swedish Coins, from the eleventh century.

The collection takes in 25

centuries of monetary heritage encompassing several hundred thousand coins, bank notes and medals. One curiosity is Sweden's famous 10 daler plate coin, listed in the record books as the largest in the world, at just under 20 kg.

Outside Stockholm the Gustafsberg factory displays a collection of porcelain and stoneware produced by the company between 1825 and the present.

In the summer months the museum may be reached by water from the centre of the city in a delightful vintage steamboat "Gustafsberg VII", built in 1912, recently restored, and something of a collector's item.

Other turn-of-the-century mint-century steamers still run to such museums as the Vaxholm fortress in the outer harbor, Drottningholm Palace - Sweden's Lakeside Versailles, and Gripsholm - the medieval castle now serving as the national portrait gallery.

The Tramway Museum, its underground location at the Odenplan subway station, a novelty in itself, profiles the development of Stockholm's public transportation system from four-legged to four-wheel carriers.

Even those whose passion centres on such off-beat items as beer cans or wine labels are not entirely without amenity. The museum of Pripps brewery in the suburb of Bromma taps the history and traditions of the brewing industry. The history of trade in wines and spirits filters through the Wine and Distillery Museum on St. Eriksgatan.

The Royal Army Museum on Riddargatan has a well-displayed collection including firearms, swords, uniforms and military trophies, designed to

give an insight into Swedish land defenses over a period of 400 years.

Music lovers are well served by the collection of classical and folk instruments at the Music Museum on Slottsbacken by the Royal Palace, while the Drottningholm Court Theatre - the best preserved eighteenth century theatre in the world - is a museum piece in its own right, still entertaining with the help of the original stage machinery and settings.

Norwegians and Swedes

The friendly rivalry that exists between Norwegians and Swedes was accentuated when an old Norwegian applied for old age pension. He handed in his form to the clerk in Oslo City Hall, who scrutinized it with expert eyes, but then he said, "You have stated your age to be 72 years, but it appears that you are really 75 years old?" The old man answered "yes, but I spent 3 years in Sweden, and I suppose that doesn't count!"

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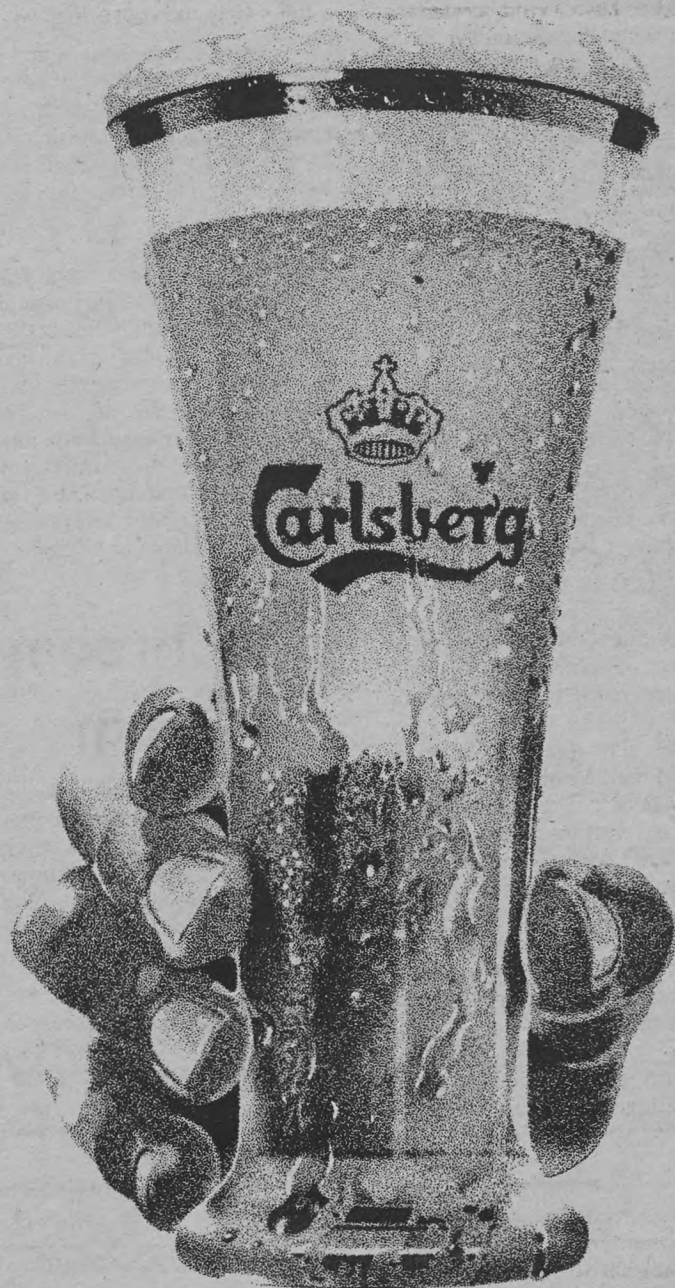
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Phone - a - bus

"Tebebus" is the name of a dial-a-bus system that has successfully been introduced in the city of Boras, Sweden. Developed by Volvo, the system enables passengers to telephone to an automatic "Operator" which, in turn, orders the bus to stop at specified

stations. Any home or office area telephone can be used to call the tebebus. Each bus stop has been given its own two-digit code number which the passenger dials when ordering.

The bus starts at regular times. However, the route and stops are determined by the

calls by passengers. The bus system was instituted as an experiment between downtown Boras and an outlying industrial area. It has been so successful that the municipal transport authority hopes to make it permanent and expand the service.



Curling - Dale and Olga McBride with Gary and Evelyn Johnson

SONS OF NORWAY WINTER GAMES



Accepting Curling Trophy from Roy Swanberg, President District 4, and Kermit Lilja (Montana) Sports Director is Derryl Nelson, President of the Grande Prairie Lodge.



Sons of Norway President, Trygve Soyland, speaks at the Banquet; Director J. Edward Ness, Chairman is seated.



SOLGLYT SPOTLIGHT

On March 19, the Edmonton lodge hosted a seminar involving officers and representatives from the five Alberta Lodges.

Seminar leader, Trygve Aasheim, reviewed a number of changes relating to per capita tax, inter-lodge transfers and other administrative matters. All those present felt that the most beneficial part of the seminar was the opportunity to meet their fellow lodge members and exchange ideas. The highlight of the evening dinner and dance had to be the entertainment provided by our own Solglyt Lodge Orchestra. They treated the group to the beautiful singing of Irene Hovde, and the fine dance music played by Del Melsness, Harry Huser, Wally Broen, Odd Espeland, Dale Johnson and Gary Johnson.

Orla and Sven Tychsen and family spent the recent spring break vacation in Regina, Sask. They attended the wedding of Orla's nephew.

Inge and Betty Anderson and their children Carol and Allen spent the recent holiday in Whitefish, Montana.

Anders and Eleanor Anderson have returned from Sarnia, Ontario where they visited Anders' brother and took in some of the sights.

Ragna Sivertsen will be spending the next few weeks in Calgary, visiting her sons and their families.

Ruth Hammersted is recuperating at home after a recent fall in which she broke her wrist.

Our sympathies go out to the following families: Hilma Bukvi on the loss of her mother. Janette Burt on the loss of her brother. Haldis Safranka on the loss of

her husband.

Nels and Cynthia Skarbo had their son and daughter-in-law and grandchildren home for the holidays.

Gladys Clark has been in Regina Visiting her mother. Emeth and Gladys spent the Easter weekend in Lloydminster, Sask. Their daughter Susan has been in Prince Alberta, Sask.

Selma Sorenson is home now from a short stay in the hospital. We wish you well Selma.

Molly Cooper recently travelled to Trail, B.C. to visit her sister. She also spent some time in Kelowna, B.C. Our sympathies are extended to the Hafso family on the loss of their uncle, Carl Hafso in Viking.

Mushroom Room

The earliest recorded recipes probably called for mushrooms - fresh or dried. And as every cook ever since has known, dried mushrooms do not look like fresh mushrooms. But now they do, except they are not for

eating.

A method developed at the Museum of Natural History in Stockholm now allows mushrooms to be perfectly preserved, looking as natural as they did when alive and growing in the forests. The technique was developed as part of the Museum's program to provide as natural a setting as possible for its wildlife and outdoor displays. Because of their special properties, mushrooms have always been difficult to display naturally. The museum method involves freeze-drying of fresh mushrooms for a week at -55 degrees C. in a special apparatus. The low temperature, plus the vacuum in the apparatus, "Fixes" the cells and evaporates the moisture. The outer form and color do not change. The same system is used for small animals or birds.

The museum has a permanent display of 200 mushroom varieties, and enthusiasts queue up at the display to see which are the safe varieties to pick in the forest.

Elsewhere in the museum, visitors can see extra-ordinary realistic forest scenes - realistic because trees are real and alive but not growing. The system that's used for this was developed by Sven Nord, a professional gardener and greenhouse owner, who wanted to keep arbor vitae bushes green and fresh for a long period. He developed a special fluid that a plant can absorb through its roots and which will permeate out through the leaves. Museum taxidermist, Werner Berg further developed the system. The museum built a

special chamber of 25 square meters where plants and trees get proper heat, light, moisture, and even "Winds" while they absorb the Sven Nord liquid. The process requires about one week and the plants or trees will live for years - but without growing.

A Chinese delegation that visited the museum recently was so impressed that Werner Berg was invited to Peking to help plan a new museum using the same methods.

Johannes Moller donates share

Johannes Moller of Odense, Denmark, bought a share in the Scandinavian Centre in October 1960. Last month he donated that share to the Centre, and the Board of Directors is most grateful for his very generous gesture.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR DONATION

Poul and Grethe Pedersen, Edmonton	\$ 5.00
John G. Johnson, Rutland, B.C.	5.00
"Norske", Edmonton	20.00
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(in memory of Mr. and Mrs. Halvor Johnson)	
Mr. and Mrs. J. Russell, St. Albert	5.00
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Paul E. Hansen, Grande Prairie	5.00

The Scandinavian Centre News

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BUFORD NEWS

A bit late, but, the members from Buford Lodge who spend a wonderful two weeks holiday in Hawaii in February were, Glenn & Darlene Pearson, Alf & Helga Hoyem, Bert & Toots Pearson and Bertha Mader.

Albin and Wanda Markstedt are in Germany visiting their daughter and son-in-law, Joanne and Dan Denman.

On Saturday evening, April 9, George, Doris and Elva Modin; Vernon and Goody, Clair and Avis and Ray Pearson motored to Bruce to attend the wedding of a relative.

George and Irma Skjersven had Irma's aunt, Daisy and daughter, Ethel, spending Easter with them.

Congratulations to Hilda Modin who celebrated her 80th Birthday on Easter Sunday. The family surprised her with a pot luck dinner, then open house in the afternoon, which was held in the Drop-In-Centre in Calmar. She had a very enjoyable time visiting with old friends whom she had not seen for some time. Over 100 guests came to wish her the best and have coffee and goodies. As a tribute to her, her youngest sister, Lillian French, read the following poem of her life which she had composed.

A TRIBUTE TO HILDA MODIN

In eighteen hundred and ninety seven,
I think the hour was half past eleven.
But it was April 10th, and a frosty morn,
When a cute baby girl named Hilda was born.
Her hair was blond and her eyes were blue.
Her skin was fresh as the morning dew.

Willmar, Minnesota was the place,
And many relatives did her embrace;
She was the first daughter of Ole & Anna Anderson, you know.
And in the years to come, had many a beau.

But a healthier baby you never did see.
She could run and talk long before she was three,
She started school in the state of Minnesota.
And for sure, she didn't go in a DeSota.

But then her folks to Canada did roam,
To look for a place for their future home,
The year was nineteen hundred and four,
And to Buford they came with a family of four,

Hilda then was only 7, but she thought the place was like a heaven.
At school, her friends and she had quite a ball.
And her best friend's name was Ruth Dahl.

But times were hard, and food was scarce.
So Hilda quit School in much despair;
She cooked and cleaned, washed clothes on a board
And wondered if her back could stand the load.

She went to dances when time permitted,
And old time picnics, which she never regretted.

She played hide and seek on "Cooro Yumma."
And Norwegian whist 'Sa Yac-kuln ha numma."

She would lose her temper once in a while,
And God help you, if Hilda you'd rile.
But then, who is perfect in this world so rare,
Who can't find something that may need repair.

She was sweet sixteen and mightily lush,
When she met a man, and his name was Gust.
She fretted and fumed and made quite a fuss,
For he could always make her blush.

And so on February 15th 1915.
The wedding bells rang, and they made quite a team,
To Bruce they went to make their home.
and for twenty-one years they were never alone.

For friends and relatives and many more,
Came to visit them through their open door.
In years to come they had a family of six;
Three sons and three daughters, just the right mix,
George, Floyd, and Willard, Florence, Ruth and Mildred.

Hilda and Gust made their clothes and their shoes,
So they never had time to take a snooze.
The kids grew up on Pot Barley and Valling,
And no one could ever accuse them of telling
Sad tales of woe to their many friends,
Of neighbouring farms and with different trends.

Hilda would knit, crochet, embroider and tat.
Work in the fields, stook and all that;
She milked the cows, and fed the pigs and the chickens.
In fact people could say she worked like the dickens.
From early morning until late at night,
And a coal oil lamp would give

some light.

In 1936 to Glen Park they moved.
And bought a farm which they improved.
For twenty-one years they worked like silly,
Then sold the farm to Arne and Millie.

A summer home on Bert's and Toot's place,
Became their home for many a days.
Friends would call for Hardtack and Beans.
And they were always welcome, so it seems.

Then a house in Calmar was improved on a lot.
And this, Gust and Hilda quickly bought.
Our Hilda still resides in this fair domain.
And swears it will always be her home.

For sixty-two years they have tried hard to be,
The kind of a couple that folks like to see-
Courteous, friendly, respectful and kind.
With love for their neighbour always in mind.

Quilts and rugs Hilda has made by the score.
And people are still hollering for more.
She helps when she can at the Senior Citizen's Hall.
And wants to be ready lest someone should call.

She is a 40 year member of Buford Vasa Lodge.
And I know her duties she would never dodge.
She also belongs to the Glen Park Ladies Aid.
And usually calls a spade a spade.

So, let us honor our Hilda with a standing ovation.
For she has earned her place in this fast moving nation.
We wish her many more years of health and happiness, too;
As well as God's richest blessings from all of you!

Composed by: Lillian B. French
in appreciation of a wonderful sister, Hilda.

Traveller's Notebook

A new look at the Vikings

I have what I thought was enough or even too many books on the Vikings in my library, and when still another volume on that subject came my way the other day my first impulse was to push it aside. But because it was such a hand-somely produced volume I dipped into it - and didn't let go until I had reached the last page.

Magnus Magnusson's "Hammer of the North" (Orbus Publishing London, 1976) illustrated with superb photos by Werner Forman, is a fascinating account of the pre-Viking and Viking age in Scandinavia. Both scholarly and immensely readable, it goes a long way toward correcting the popular image of the Vikings as the bad guys of history.

In the preface to his book Mr. Magnusson, an Iclander by birth and editor and author of books on history and archeology, states: "For many centuries the Vikings were reviled as a race of cruel and bloodthirsty assassins, intent only on plundering the wealth of a serenely Christian Europe, delighting only in looting and rape and murder.. Modern scholarship, however is gradually revealing a very different picture of the Scandinavians of the so-called "Viking Age," as traders and explorers, settlers and poets, and as extraordinary inventive artists."

Mr. Magnusson makes use of the Icelandic sagas, as well as archeological and anthropological findings, to explore the world of the Vikings, which lasted from about AD 800 to 1100. His narrative covers Viking history, art and mythology, including what he calls, "Their furious faith in belligerent gods."

In his remarkable chapter on pre-Viking Scandinavia the author demonstrates how certain features of life in the north

during that era were destined to play an important role in the Viking Age itself. He writes: "In the perspective of history, one can see how the Pre-Viking boat evolved steadily towards the point when it was ready for the Viking age. All the other ingredients for the Viking age had been maturing concurrently: the martial self-confidence, that taste for adventure and expansion, the loose organization of relatively small units owing allegiance to a personal chieftain, the belief in gods who epitomized warrior-like qualities. The self-reliance and seamanship were there in rich measure. The omens were propitious. All that was needed to unleash the Vikings on the unsuspecting world was the

Cont'd on page 9

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Scandinavian Kitchen Corner

SPRING CHICKEN WITH CREAM GRAVY

There is a lot to be said for cooking chicken in a casserole or Dutch oven, rather than roasting them, as roasting tends to make the meat dry. This applies particularly to the frozen birds we often buy today. This recipe is a favourite one amongst the Danes, especially on account of its rich, creamy gravy.

Preparation Time- 30 minutes.
Cooking Time-45 minutes.

Serves 4

YOU WILL NEED

2 spring chickens, cleaned and ready for cooking.

Salt,
Pepper

Bunch parsley, washed and stalks removed.

6-7 oz. butter

2½ cups cereal cream.

Rub the chickens with salt and pepper both inside and outside. Chop the parsley coarsely and combine it with about one-third of the butter. Stuff the chicken with this butter and parsley mixture and truss in the usual way.

Melt the remaining butter in a casserole with a heavy base; when it has turned a nutty brown colour, fry the chickens until they are evenly brown all over. Add the giblets and lower the heat. Partly cover the casserole with a lid and continue to cook for 30-45 minutes, according to the size of the birds. Just before serving, add the cream and simmer for 3-4 minutes, until the cream coagulates and the juices separate. This special sauce is called "Skilt Sauce" in Danish. In

spite of its rather strange appearance, it is delicious, being both rich and creamy.

Serve the chickens cut in half, accompanied with either boiled or glazed potatoes - or both is preferred - together with either a green or cucumber salad such as the one below.

CUCUMBER SALAD

This easily prepared cucumber salad is usually a great favourite among foreign visitors to Scandinavia. It is the "Salting" process which makes it different from most other cucumber salads.

Preparation Time-10 minutes.

Serves 4-6

YOU WILL NEED:

1 Cucumber.

Salt

Scant ½ cup water

½ tsp. salt.

Pinch white pepper

Scant ½ cup white wine vinegar or juice of 1 lemon.

Sugar to taste (about 3 tbsp)

2 tbsp. chopped parsley or dill.

Wash the cucumber and slice it very finely, using a vegetable slicer if available, so that the slices are almost transparent. Place in a deep bowl and sprinkle with salt. Cover with a plate and weight down with a heavy object. Leave to stand for 1-2 hours. Drain thoroughly, rinse off the salt and squeeze out the remaining juice. Boil the water and add the salt and pepper, leave to cool and add the vinegar and sugar. When the dressing is cold, pour it over the cucumber and leave to chill for half an hour. Just before serving sprinkle with chopped parsley or dill.

Another journey to Norway

By Olaf Sveen

Eva, our little girl Astrid and myself had made arrangements to go to Norway in May this year. My Dad had been complaining in his letters that he felt sick this winter, but then, he was to become 84 years old in August, so we hoped it was just the winter that was hard on him, and that he would be well again by spring. Then in early February he had to be taken to the hospital, and in early March we got letters from both my brothers, that he was worse, so we decided to leave next morning. Last time I went to Norway, in 1974, I left so suddenly that the letter telling them I was coming, arrived the same day as I did. This time we left so sudden that it was no use writing and tell them we had changed our plans. It was with sad forebodings I phoned my Mom from Oslo when we arrived there, but about the first thing she said was that my Dad

was getting better.

It was not very long before we were at Orkdal Hospital where my Dad was staying, and it was easy to see that he was in terrible shape. What a change from the last time I saw him, three years ago, when he walked so fast that I could hardly keep up with him. So many things had went wrong with his body, but his mind was clear. He lived for about one week after we arrived. So our trip became a trip full of emotions this time, so even if we all expected it to turn out this way, we were still hoping he would get better and come home again. I believe it was hardest on my little girl Astrid, she could hardly understand what was happening to her grandfather. But by Dad knew he was going to die, one day he said to me, after he had been talking about his own Mom and Dad, that "Now it is my turn."

By Bob Burt

April 5th members of the Torske Klubben gathered in the Viking Room where good fellowship always prevails. Following the happy hour all sat to a good feast of fish, potatoes and vegetables, salad, coffee and aquavit.

There was the usual round of introductions, then jokes and birthday announcements. Boss Wally Broen then introduced the guest speaker, Mr. Jack Puford. Jack is a technical consultant for the Alberta Government Telephones.

Through his talk, we were informed that Edmonton is the starting point for Automatic Meter Reading through Control Devices. A new area in Edmonton will act as a verification centre where Control Devices with chip data techniques are able to remotely read water, power and gas meters with the use of encoders. Meters so equipped with encoders can be read at any time from the Control Office giving recordings of peak use; assisting the overload areas by altering energy for demand user, shedding non-essential services.

All I can say is: Blessed be his memory.

We took the train from Trondheim to Oslo, and it is a fact that Trondheim is one of the most historical places in all Norway, because this town is even older than Oslo.

Soon we arrived at Melhus, close to Einar Tambarskjelves farm Gimsan. We can still see the stones out in Borsa where the legend says he tied up his boats. Einar Tambarskjelve was a famous master with the bow and arrow, and he was with Olav Trygvason at the battle of Svalder.

A bit further on, at Soberg, we see a farm called Romol. That is the place where Tora from Rimul, Earl Haakon's girlfriend lived. The famous story about how the thrall Kark killed his master, Earl Haakon, happened on that farm.

An earth-slide by Haga bridge in the year 1345 made a dam across the valley, so the whole valley became a lake all the way to Bones, a distance of about 14 kilometers.

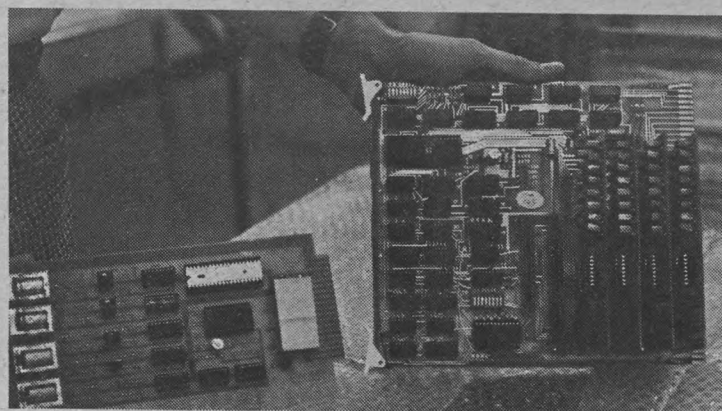
Later on the dam busted, causing a terrible flood. It has been told that at least 250 people lost their lives, and 40 farms and 7 churches disappeared at Horg, Flaa and Melhus.

Several burialmounds have been discovered at Sokneldal, on a farm named Hovin, and farther on, at Oppdal close to a thousand burialmounds from the Viking-age have been found.

Vaarstigen, or the Spring path, has been famous through the ages for being a tough road to travel. People used to travel on the river in the winter-time, but as soon as spring came and the ice went, people had to travel beside the river, and that is how it was called the "Spring Path". A couple of Danish Kings travelled that road.

At Hjerkin is a monument in

Automation introduced at Torske Klubben



Two Transponders - Large one used in field trial project of 1970; the other will soon be installed in each of 2,000 homes in Mill Woods for operation in October of this year.

The small units can connect or disconnnet telephones, cable TV, power, water or gas, cutting services when persons are on holidays or services that are not essential at any time. Alarm facilities including burglary, fire, smoke or gas leak can be added to the system.

The talk was interesting but over the heads of some. All present felt proud that Edmonton is the starting point for this new, interesting and certainly

energy-saving device.

Next meeting on May 3rd will include an enlightening talk and film on the instruction and training of the R.C.M.P. at Regina. Const. Karen Hilland, of the RCMP stationed at Leduc will be the guest speaker.

If you wish to join the men's Torske Klubben, any information might be obtained by calling Sig Sorenson, Bus. 427-1358 or Res. 466-1839 - he knows all the answers.

around town can be compared to reading pages and pages out of a book on Norwegian History.

I have mentioned all this because my Dad was very much interested in History, and I was told in Norway this time that people right now are very interested in their forefathers and days gone by.

Maybe I can say as the Norwegian writer, Ingvald Svinasaas writes: "All the people I have told you about here are dead and gone. But can that really be so? Are they really noplacé? I know they are around me, my people. I can feel they are very, very close."

Passive alarm works vice-versa

Ordinarily, an alarm system is designed so that it is set into operation when a door or vault is opened. But the Swedish Telecommunications Administration is starting to install a system, for use by elderly and handicapped, that works just the opposite. If a door is **not** opened, the alarm goes off.

This "Passive" system was developed by doctors and psychologists who are specialists in care of the aged and handicapped. Many elderly or handicapped fear that if they fall in their homes, or become ill, and cannot reach the telephone they might lie helpless for a long time before help reaches them. Thus, a "Passive" system was designed, so that an alarm will sound - either in the hall or in a central station - if a normal regular household activity is not performed, such as opening a refrigerator or bathroom door, or flushing a toilet, or turning on a lamp or television set.

The devices can be installed and regulated to suit various living habits. There is a switch-off system to allow people with the system to leave home for a longer period than normal.



Our share of raw materials
is nil-
we've got the sea to sail
the soil to till-
we're forced to cultivate
one export-
skill!!

...PIET HEIN

The Danish Society would like to hear from anyone, who is on the picture, or who can name the persons on it. Please phone Peter Andersen 458-2788 or send me a note.

Low cost Scandinavia

By Ted Parks

Rising costs have had a sobering effect on most people, and most in turn are beginning to learn that moderation in all things brings its own rewards.

The trend is becoming as common along the tourist routes as it has become in the market places and now, buyers are taking a longer, more critical look at the goods on display before parting with their cash.

This message has been well taken by those who sell tourist services and by those countries which promote them.

Tourism, however, is still short of its goal of becoming a buyer's market although there are signs that the line, in most places, is being held in check.

Hans Dedekam, Scandinavian Airlines' Manager in Canada speaks an obvious truth when he says that tourists are telling everyone that they can do without luxury but they still want comfort.

"We reply," he says, "By telling them they can find it at reasonable costs in Scandinavia's cities, in small hotels or private homes; in the country it can be found on farms.

"In a sentence it means going economy without sacrifice and getting value."

And going economy has another advantage since it puts the stranger closer to the people and, in effect, people meet people which is what travel is all about.

Throughout Scandinavia, in Norway, Denmark and Sweden, there are whole lists of low-cost hotels or rooms in private homes, all recommended by state-approved travel associations.

True, the appointments may not be deluxe, true the guests may have to share a bathroom. But two things can be guaranteed: rooms will spotless and linen freshly laundered.

In this regard, Norway has possibly the greatest number of low-cost accommodations. Sweden and Denmark are not far behind.

Axel Dessau, Director of the North American arm of the Danish National Tourist Office, concurs, then suggests a Danish farm, or "Roughing it in Greenland"

"But before humming Old MacDonald," he says, "re-

member one thing before choosing a farm. If you insist on modern luxury, forget it. Everything is down-to-earth. But you will have a comfortable bed, splendid food, and heaps of fun."

Local Danish tourist offices have co-operated with farmers and have drafted standard rules. Currently, accommodation is available in Sealand, Funen and Jutland at rates hovering around \$13 a day with full board.

Inquiries should be addressed to: Danish Tourist Office, 75 Rockefeller Plaza, New York, NY. 10019, USA.

A further suggestion from Mr. Dessau is Greenland, what he calls a "Back-to-nature experience."

But he warns: "Even if everything is pre-planned, the Arctic climate could upset the most carefully prepared itinerary. So be prepared, for Greenland is a challenge, a true adventure."

And how are the senior citizens treated? Very well, for unlike too many places, they are VIP's throughout Scandinavia and the treatment they give to

their own is extended to those who visit from abroad.

In Denmark, the Golden Ager 65 and up is allowed a 35 per cent rebate on all Scandinavian Airlines' domestic routes, and a 50 per cent cut in mid-week travel on the state railway.

In Norway, the state railway cuts all fares by half for 70-year-olds and over.

In Sweden, rail fares across the country are halved for all 67 and above and in the capital, Stockholm, bus and underground fares are also halved for the same group.

An excellent guide to the traveller making plans for a trip is published by Scandinavian Airlines.

The well-documented, easy to read pocketbook - Your Guide to Low-Cost Scandinavian Vacations, which is free, gives names and addresses of budget hotels in each country, and hints on travel within each, places at which to dine, with costs, and suggestions for off-beat trips.

It is available from: Scandinavian Airlines (SAS) 1200 McGill College Ave. Suite 1420, Montreal, Que. H3B 4G7.

DANIA DOINGS



As Spring and Summer has arrived again your executive had decided to take a break.

Our next upcoming event will be the annual "Klondike Dance" which will be held on July 22, 1977. We will bring you further information regarding this party in the July issue of the paper. Why not mark your calendars already, and if you are having visitors from Denmark, make sure to bring them out to this evening of fun.

HAVE A GOOD SUMMER

**Midnight golf,
anyone?**

If golf is your bag and you want a truly unique experience, try the beautiful Ostersund golf course in northern Sweden. Located just south of the Arctic Circle, the midnight sun makes the nights so bright you can tee off at midnight from early June to the middle of July.

ICELANDIC NEWSLETTER

By Shirley Sigurdson

Gunnar Thorvaldson has returned to Edmonton, having spent six months in Whitehorse, Yukon Territory, teaching a vocational course.

Steini Jonsson of our Society has been elected to the Board of Directors of the Scandinavian Centre. With Solli Sigurdson and Les Greenhan, the Icelandic Society is well represented.

Eddi and Veiga Thorsteinson of Husavick, Manitoba spent 3 weeks with their grandson Grant Sigurdson recently. Solli and Shirley went to Houston, Texas for a week where Solli Attended a conference.

Sam Peterson of Gimil, Manitoba was here too, visiting daughter Mickey Shaw, family and friends.

Newcomers to town are Niels and Gwen Bjarnason and family. Niels is the brother of Hulda Yelic and Ninna Campbell. He will be teaching at N.A.I.T.

President of the Society, Barney Thorlakson says the executive is seriously considering setting up an Icelandic Language Course contingent upon interest shown by members and friends. If you or anyone you know is interested, call Barney at 487-1506, Shirley Lundberg at 436-1180, or Freda Smith at 487-0049. Pass the

word Along!

Watch for further announcements regarding the annual Icelandic picnic at Markerville, mid-June.

The Thorablot evening was a tremendous success. Many thanks to the ladies who provided the food - as authentic as possible. The speaker was interesting, the band terrific, and even if I was part of the entertainment, I still think it was enjoyable. We look forward to an equally successful evening next year.

The Saga Singers wish to announce that, beginning next fall, practices will be held on Monday evenings at 7:30 p.m. sharp, in member's homes and the Scandinavian Centre on a rotational basis. They are anxious to recruit new members - if you like to sing and have a good time call any choir member, or Lucille Oddson for information 466-6838. The choir is considering starting a small children's choir as well.

Rosemary and Herb Moon and family spent their Easter Vacation at Disneyland.

By the Way: Beg, borrow or steal, the April issue of *The Saturday Evening Post* and read one of Bill Valgardson's latest short stories, "The Couch."

singing in the evening to add to the warmth.

The menu is varied with some 60 or so dishes to choose from. Prices run the gamut but nothing tops \$9.98 (and that is a steak flambe in cognac for two). There is also a wide choice of salads, desserts and fruits with cheese. (a French touch at Papas - crepe suzettes for two cost \$3.85 and you can hardly top that even in Paris). A complete win list, at competitive prices, is available to complement meals.

This is only a sample of what tourists to Copenhagen can find in the way of good, inexpensive Italian restaurants. There are also a great number of good Chinese restaurants offering very reasonably priced menus and small, entertaining Danish "Cellar" restaurants featuring Danish specialties, very popular with the local people. But these samples go a long way in proving that there is no reason to spend a small fortune eating in Copenhagen.

Steam Gallery

One of Alberta's hottest and most powerful pioneers has been found a permanent home by Alberta Culture in the Provincial Museum.

The steam engine and paddle wheel from the 1914 Steamboat Nasco is the dominating feature of the new Steam Gallery Exhibit open this month.

The steam Gallery is a new addition to the Human History Section of the Museum. Displays, maps and large photographs show how steam was used as a power source in Alberta before oil and gas appeared.

The huge hoisting engine has been restored, showing the role steam power played in mining and heavy industry. A working cutaway model illustrates how a steam engine works.

There are photos of enormous steam tractors plowing the unbroken prairie in Southern Alberta. Another series shows construction of the S.S.D.A. Thomas, the largest steam boat to ply the Peace River.

Being a land-locked province, it's easy to forget the extensive use of our lakes and river systems made by the early settlers and traders. A large map shows the steam boat routes in Alberta, along with more photos of well-known boats.

Railways are represented too, with a brief description of the impact steam trains had on the opening of the West.

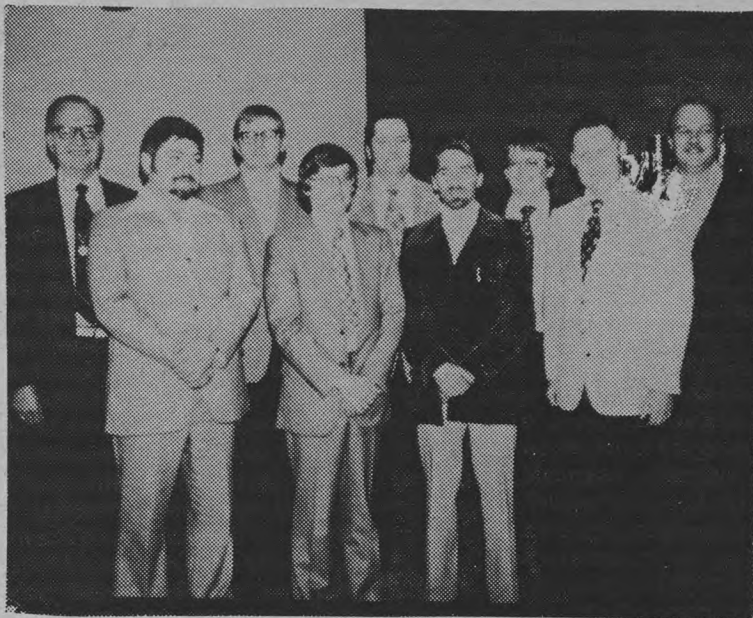
On display in the Museum foyer are two scale models of early farm machinery. A steam tractor (which actually works) is hitched to a threshing machine. Attention to detail is exceptional.

More than three years of planning, restoration and research has gone into the creation of this new Steam Gallery. The hoisting engine was rescued from a scrap yard and the Nasco engine and Paddle Wheel were in a Dusty warehouse.

The new Steam Gallery is located on the second floor in the Human History Section of the Museum.

The Provincial Museum and Archives is open 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday through Thursday and Friday, 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. Saturday and Sunday, 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. Admission is free.

Sons of Norway



DIRECTORS AND PRESIDENTS ATTENDING DISTRICT
4 ALBERTA SONS OF NORWAY CONFERENCE
MARCH 19

Front Row: Clair Foss, Camrose; Trygve Aarsheim, Supreme Lodge Speaker; Knut Haga, Calgary; Derryl Nelson, Grande Prairie.
Back Row: J. Edward Ness, Supreme Director; Doug Peterson, Director and President, Edmonton; Roy Swanberg, District Director, Calgary; Harvey Haugen, District Director, Edmonton.

Icelandic Folk Tales

A book of Icelandic Folk Tales by a former Northern Michigan University professor has been published posthumously by his widow in Vancouver, B.C.

Icelandic Folk Tales and Fairy Stories is a collection of literature selected, translated and edited by the late Holmes Boynton, who was head of NMU's mathematics department from 1947 to 1965. From there he went to Grand Valley State College and then retired to Vancouver, B.C. where he owned and operated a motel.

He died in 1970 at age 64. Beatrice S. Gislason Boynton, born in Elfros, Sask. of Icelandic heritage, was also a member of the mathematics faculty at NMU. She and her husband travelled many times to Iceland, and he became deeply interested in its language and culture. In her introduction to the volume, she says, "This collection of stories was a labor of love for Holmes Boynton. As a young man, he read widely of things Icelandic, including the eddas and sagas. This interest continued through the years and was strengthened by his many visits to Iceland and his love for Icelandic friends. His admiration for the Icelandic people was quite profound."

found."

The book, available in both hardcover and paperback editions, contains 17 tales and is illustrated with original line drawings. The hardcover edition is \$5.50 and softcover is \$3.50. In Edmonton the attractively bound volume is available from Pauline Mitchell, #1502 11808-100 Ave., Edmonton T5K 0K4. Phone 488-1395.

Get a copy for your children, grandchildren, or treat yourself!



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Copenhagen has many inexpensive restaurants

Good, inexpensive restaurants abound in Copenhagen, according to a recent survey made by Scandinavian Airlines. The variety is wide including French, Italian, Chinese and naturally Danish, among many others. To find them, one need only walk around the Danish capital and check the menus and prices on restaurant windows.

To be sure, there are, as in any European Capital, elegant and inexpensive restaurants and Copenhagen is certainly no exception. But, according to SAS there are many inexpensive eating establishments where the ambience is as inviting as the prices and the food.

One favourite is the Restaurant Stephan a Porta, an Italian specialty house located across from the Royal Theatre at Kongens Nytorv 17. Because of its location, as one might expect, the restaurant gets a heavy before and after theatre crowd.

The interior of the Stephan a Porta dates back to the 1800's and actually very little has changed inside since the doors opened in 1857. One of the highlights is the outdoor cafe that is open from the end of March right up till Christmas each year. (it's heated and enclosed in winter).

The Stephan a Porta's menu goes on and on offering such Italian delights as Lasagne Bolognesi, rice with shrimps, wild rabbit, scampi, fish, veal, chicken, six different spaghetti dishes and nine different types of pizzas. There is also a complete cheese, fruit and des-

sert menu with true bargain prices.

Prices for an entree range anywhere from \$3.18 to \$8.38 while pizzas run \$2.35 to \$3.52. Summer hours at Stephan a Porta are 10:00 A.M. to Midnight; winter, 11:00 A.M. to 1:00 A.M.

There are two other inexpensive Italian restaurants in Copenhagen worthy of mention both located at Fiolstarde 2 in the same building. The Universitetskafeen, as the name suggests, is near the University of Copenhagen and extremely popular with students. The same premise holds true in Denmark that holds true here at home - if the restaurant is popular with students, it is surely reasonable and offers good food in bountiful servings.

It is open at 5:00 a.m. each day and swarmed with people who prefer inexpensive dining as an alternative to nightclubs or discotheques.

The other Italian establishment Copenhageners are partial to is Ristorante Italiano. Here the specialties are real Italian home-cooked meals, especially the huge plate of spaghetti. A pizza or plate of spaghetti cost about \$1.25 and are a meal unto themselves. Hours are 11:00 a.m. to 2:00 a.m.

Middle Eastern and Italian food is the fare at Restaurant Papas, open until 2:00 a.m. each day. It sits opposite Norreport Station at Kultovet 15. The restaurant is a conglomeration of five, 1700-vintage houses which features a terrace and two gardens for outside dining in warmer weather. There is guitar music and

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SWEDISH 5:10 - 5:30 p.m.



Edward W. Laine, B.A., M.A., Ph.D.

National Ethnic Archives Northern European Programme

Most Canadian histories present an incomplete record of Canada's past because the emphasis has been placed on the French and British contributions. **Scandinavian Centre News** was informed in an interview with an official from the Public Archives of Canada.

A major factor for this ignorance of the heritage of the ethnic minorities, said Dr. Edward Laine of the National Ethnic Archives of the Public Archives of Canada, is the shortage of accessible material relating to these groups. He also noted that documentation concerning Scandinavian and Finns on the prairies was particularly under-represented in the national archives.

Dr. Laine, who is Co-ordinator of the Archives, Northern European Programme, was in Edmonton recently on a cross-country search for archival material pertaining to the Nordic peoples, said he looks at his work as an essential part of preserving Canada's multicultural past.

"A lot of people think archives are irrelevant to their daily lives, but almost everyone has his own archives of personal papers which contain letters, diaries, photographs, notebooks, scrapbooks, etc., or they are members of societies which are rich with archival material of a similar nature. Much of the information contained in these papers and records may be of significant in expanding our knowledge of the Canadian past," said Dr. Laine. It is unique and irreplaceable he said, and steps should be taken to ensure that this material is permanently preserved.

The prairies are especially important in terms of Canada's multicultural past, Dr. Laine says, as the ethno-cultural minorities, including Scandinavians and Finns were some of the first pioneers in the area. He is most concerned to see that this aspect is also properly documented for the information of future generations.

Anyone with letters, diaries, personal papers or photos of Nordic peoples, is asked to contact Dr. Laine at the National Ethnic Archives, Public Archives of Canada, 395 Wellington Street, Ottawa, Ontario, K1A 0N3, or to contact a provincial archives.

Vikings - Cont'd from page 5

right kind of ship."

That boat of course, was the Viking longship, which gave the Vikings the "Advantage of surprise" and enabled these men of "Reckless courage and invincible ferocity" to drive through Russia and Constantinople overland and occupy large areas of France, England, Ireland and Scotland, establish new colonies in the Faroes, Iceland and Greenland, and finally, reach the shores of North America. It was, in the author's words, "An extraordinary adventure."

Although Mr. Magnusson readily concedes the fact that the Vikings could hardly be classified as saints, he stresses the point that neither were they "Quite the sinners they have been made out to be by popular legend." Clearly a sympathetic

observer, he suggests that contemporary writers seem to have greatly exaggerated "The number of Vikings who were involved in warfare." On the positive side he credits the Vikings for, among other things, revitalizing the economy and culture of northern England after they had settled there.

Much of the book is devoted to a detailed analysis of the Norse gods, such as Odin, Thor and Frey, and other deities that conditioned Viking attitudes toward life and death and the hereafter. Mr. Magnusson particularly admires what he calls their uncompromising fatalism which he sees as the "ultimate measure of the character of the Vikings."

The author attributes the decline of the Vikings as an imperial power to a lack of

Ronning Lodge

Ronning Lodge will be holding a pot luck supper and program in conjunction with our meeting on Wednesday, May 25th. The program will include members of our Jr. Lodge as well as our Drill Team.

On June 3rd and 4th we will once again be hosting the Old Time Competitions during Jay Walkers Jamboree. Included in the competitions are men's and ladies' Singles and Doubles in horseshoes, ladies' nail-driving and log-sawing. Anyone interested in entering please use the application form printed in this paper.

Following the two days of events we will be holding a HARD-TIME DANCE in the Bittern Lake Community Hall. Dancing will be from 9:00 p.m. to 1:00 a.m. to Hoffman's Orchestra. Tickets are available from Doris Dorin at 672-4323, or Arlene Moen at 672-4777 (after 6:00 p.m.). There are only a limited number of tickets available and they will therefore be sold on a first-come-first-served basis. Everyone is welcome, and come dressed in your best costume.

Our best wishes to Hank and Sylvia Roeters and family who will be moving to Spain in the very near future.

centralizing force, a lack of coordination between the Scandinavian countries and fierce squabbles among themselves. 'Ultimately, the Vikings were too individualistic to be organized into an effective machine,' he concludes. "But two other factors should also be considered: the decline of the Viking longship as a fighting instrument against other shipping, and the gradual conversion of the Vikings to Christianity."

Any traveler to Scandinavia with an interest in the Vikings will find "Hammer of the North" which derives its title from the hammer of Thor (a symbol of Viking strength) indispensable. One should read this book, for instance, before visiting the Viking Ship Museum in Oslo, where the Oseberg, Gokstad and Tune ships are housed. Mr. Magnusson's illumination account of these famous longships, discovered, respectively in 1904, 1880, and 1867, and excavated and restored, adds another dimension to a visit to this splendid museum. The same holds true for the Viking Ship Museum in Roskilde, Denmark, where five ships scuttled in the eleventh century are being restored, and places in Sweden, like Birka, a Viking market town where archeologists have unearthed goods from all over the East.

Werner Forman, himself an authority on ancient civilizations, has provided more than 120 beautifully composed color photographs of pre-Viking and Viking artifacts and dramatic Scandinavian scenes associated with those periods. We are shown Bronze Age rock carvings and memorial picture stones, details of Viking ships and the burial treasures of the Vikings, rings, brooches, and amulets in gold and silver, as well as their principal weapons -



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swords, spears, and axes. The Viking gods are depicted on woven tapestries, in bronze images and other forms.

They are an impressive pictorial record of the surprising artistic capabilities and expert craftsmanship of the Vikings, a visual treat that perfectly complements Mr. Magnusson's text.

New motor-home speed limits

Truck speed limits in Alberta will now apply to all motor vehicles weighing more than 8,000 pounds.

The major thrust of the new regulation is that self-propelled holiday homes will be classed with trucks so far as speed limits are concerned if their weight exceeds the prescribed maximum. In substance the new regulations declare that all motor vehicles with a gross weight of more than 8,000 pounds must be driven at the truck speed limits.

Most self-propelled holiday homes in Alberta are now registered as passenger vehicles and previously could be operated at passenger car limits. The new law takes into account the size of these larger vehicles and the relative difficulty in manoeuvring them.

CHANGING YOUR ADDRESS?

Please advise **The Scandinavian Centre News** as soon as possible of any change of address. Cut out your name and address from the front page and paste it in the space below, or print your old address. If you get your paper through another group other than being a shareholder, kindly mention this.

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- ☐ Danish Society
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- ☐ Vasa Lodge
- ☐ Finnish Society
- ☐ Sons of Norway
- ☐ Some other source

I'm Sitting on My Own

An Icelandic Folktale
Translated by Alan Boucher

There was once a man named Petur. Neither his surname nor father's name is given, but he was always known as Petur Smith, for he was a black-smith of no mean order. He was a man of immense strength and a hard worker.

However, he could by no means find an anvil strong enough to take his blows. This hindered him in his work. Petur Smith was more than a little vexed at being unable to exercise his craft to the full. He solved the problem, though by making a compact with the Devil. The latter provided him with an anvil, the like of which was never seen before; but it was no gift, for Petur was to surrender his soul to Satan after ten years in return. Besides, the anvil did not prove so useful as it might have been, for it was found that no hammer was strong enough to strike it.

Ten years passed by, and the Devil came to Petur and demanded that he keep his part of the bargain. Petur now showed how little use he had had of the anvil, needing a hammer of the same quality. Whether he begged or demanded, the result was that Satan gave way to his just request and let him have a hammer and an extra ten years' grace.

After this, everything went well. Satan himself could not have been more of a demon smith than Petur was, for now the hammer suited the anvil. And to make a long story short, the agreed time passed by.

At the end of the ten years, the Devil came once more to claim his due. Petur was in his smithy as usual and made no bones about keeping his part of the bargain. He only prayed Satan to grant him a single boon. There was no limit to the Devil's indulgence and he at once agreed. Petur now asked him for a bag with the virtue of making all things go into it at his wish. Satan handed him such a bag and Petur examined it closely, opening the neck. All of a sudden the Devil himself lived head first into the bag. Petur at once gripped the neck tightly, laid it with its contents on the anvil, took up the hammer Satansgift, and belaboured the enemy of mankind so lustily that never before had hammer given or anvil received such blows.

Satan roared and howled most pitifully and begged Petur to hold his hand. But he replied that there was no question of that unless the Devil agreed to cancel his contract and not touch a hair of his head. Petur now had his will, and whether he would or no, Satan was obliged to promise faithfully that he would make no claim upon him at any time nor vex him in any way. Thereupon Petur let him go free, and the Devil Kept his word. Petur thus had his worth of both hammer and anvil.

How long Petur Smith lived after this is not told. But when he died he went to Heaven and asked to be admitted.

Saint Peter answered the door. He said that the smith had made a compact with the householder of Hell and must find a place for himself there,

for into Heaven he would not be allowed to come.

Petur Smith went to the other place, but did no better down there, for Satan also refused him admittance, saying that he had nearly been the death of him before with his bag and anvil, and he was the last person he would want to have in his house, for he would be no better to deal with now. So Petur Smith had to turn back, and he thought that now the outlook was not very promising, since he had been denied entry to both places, and this would not do at all.

He first went to his smithy, and took the leather apron he had owned, and binding it in a tight bundle he set off for heaven a second time. Here he knocked at the door, and again his namesake answered. And the next thing Saint Peter knew, the smith had pitched the bundle past him onto the floor inside.

They now exchange words on the subject of accommodation, as before, but Petur Smith got the same answer. He therefore asked whether he might not at least have his leather apron back, and Saint Peter raised no objection to this; he would not have so sacrilegious an article in Heaven, he said. But nor would he touch it himself, so Petur Smith was allowed in to get it.

Thereupon he walked inside, took the apron and spread it out on the floor, and sat on it.

And there he sits to this day. For if anyone tries to drive him out, he always replies: "I am sitting on my own."

Big Country Big Statistics

It is not generally known, but it's a fact that Norway is the only kingdom in Europe that shares frontier with Soviet Russia. The actual frontier, which is about 150 miles long, is a fine salmon river, the Passvik, right up in the Arctic - in the Land of the Midnight Sun. 50-pounders are caught here every season - and the questions is of course whether the fish is communist or capitalist. However, since the salmon meat is red, Norwegians are even more enthusiastic in hooking salmon off the "Communist" river.

The Russians opened up the northernmost strip for tourist traffic in 1965. It was a surprise move, but the frontier facilities were restricted to Scandinavians only. At the end of the season, the Russians announced that not less than 81,000 Scandinavians had availed themselves of the opportunity of visiting Boris Gleb in Russia from Kirkenes in Norway. A Norwegian tourist official, who knew the official passport figures, told a Russian colleague that this figure was vastly exaggerated and that only about 12,000 Scandinavians had crossed the frontier. The Russians only waved his hands and said: "Well, Well, - a big country makes big statistics; a small country makes small statistics!"

KON TIKI NIGHT Sons of Norway



Beatrice Huser is presented with Door Prize by Gary Johnson and Olga McBride.



Winners of Jive Contest - George Coulter and Pattie Christensen.



Left to Right are Karen Osborne, Trish McBride, Lori Venosen.

SUMMER SOCCER IN SCANDINAVIA The two biggest international youth soccer tournaments in the world will take place in Scandinavia this summer. The Gothia Cup in Gothenburg, Sweden, July 17-22, expects 350 teams with some 7,000 players - including girls. From August 1 to 6 some 650 teams with over 10,000 players will compete in Oslo for the Norway Cup.

Hans Christian Andersen's diaries in ten volumes

The last two volumes of Hans Christian Andersen's diaries have appeared, completing a ten-volume work published by the Danish Language and Literature Society (G.E.C. Gads Forlag, Copenhagen, Kr. 103 pr. volume by subscription).

They bring to an end the long journey through Andersen's life, in the first complete edition of the diaries he kept so carefully from his youth until his death, and it has been followed with great interest by both literary critics and curious newspaper readers.

In reviews in the morning papers, the ordinary reader learnt a lot about the great fairy-tale writer he may have heard of before but had never thought was so interesting. Not that the diaries reveal the artist at his best but because they give a fantastically total picture of his person. Few ordinary Danes will buy the ten volumes and read them. But they have come to know a lot about Andersen through the reviews of the diaries.

Runes to be protected

After about 1,000 years in the open air, the runic stones which mark Denmark's oldest royal monumental tomb are showing signs of weather damage, and are therefore to be given a protective wintertime shelter.

Probably the most important runic inscriptions in Denmark, the stones at Jelling, in East Jutland, record the introduction of Christianity by King Harald Bluetooth about A.D. 985. He wrote that he was the son of King Gorm and Queen Thyra, and "the Harald who won for himself all Denmark and Norway, and made the Danes Christians".

Together with this inscription there is a low-relief figure of Christ, wearing a halo but without a cross, and surrounded by a long, intertwining ornamental band. On another side of the stone a large four-legged animal is shown overpowering a serpent. The stone bears the first figure of Christ known to have been made by a Scandinavian carver.

The stones were placed upon the graves of King Gorm and Queen Thyra, essentially as a memorial. Although they are to be protected from the weather they will not be moved, and the shelter will only be used during the winter.

Norway will present Ibsen in English

The British Institute of Oslo University has joined hands with the Oslo Dramatic Society to present Henrik Ibsen's "Ghosts" in English during the summer season. The premiere will take place on June 27 at the Norwegian Theatre.

Denmark's travel innovations stress fun of getting to know people better

Denmark is the place for pleasant paradoxes. Here is a country, a 1,000 year old kingdom, whose name today is synonymous with the word "modern" in design and yet clings to its fairytales - Hans Christian Andersen's that is. It's a tiny country with the largest and most up-to-date convention and exhibition center in Northern Europe and yet shows more pride in the size of its heart and hospitality than its structures. And although the Danes are noted for some daring ideas on modern living, they really are tradition bound, and one of the strongest of their traditions is that the purpose of tourism is not so much a matter of filling hotel rooms as of getting to know people better.

The Danish view on hospitality and friendship is no different today, when 400,000 Americans come to Denmark annually than it was 25 years ago, when only 25,000 of them dared sample its fun, food, furniture and fairytale qualities. If there has been any change, it's been in direction rather than degree, and if you want to put that to the test, you'll find the Danish countryside a fertile area for very pleasant research, because it's here that Intercity trains, bicycle tours, country inns, farms and 100 local tourist offices combine to give visitors a brand of enjoyment no other country in the world can duplicate.

Denmark's sleek, speedy, new Intercity trains are one example. They run hourly between Copenhagen and 11 provincial cities and frequently, too, on four other routes. Unlike on American trains, where one sees only the backs of fellow passengers, Intercity train riders sit face to face in comfortable six-person compartments, an arrangement conducive to conversation with the other passengers, who are probably English-speaking Danes and likely to talk first. On board, stewardesses tend to your cares, there's a rolling bar and magazines and newspapers are sold. The trip from Copenhagen to Aarhus, capital of Jutland, takes less than five hours, and you can stop en route for sightseeing, secure in the knowledge that another Intercity will be along hourly thereafter.

Once off the train, you can preserve the friendly mood already established by eschewing the bigger hotels and stopping instead at a "kro", a country inn, or at a Danish farm.

Cont'd on page 11

FINNISH SOCIETY

s y s

The Annual "Spring Fling" was held on March 13th, 1977 this year. Where were you on March 13th. The Al Breault Orchestra played beautifully as always. The food was delicious and the mood was set for a big "Spring Fling". All we needed more were the people. What happened? It seems that this was the end of our annual three club gatherings - it is sad but then nobody wants to organize gatherings and end up with negative figures. Maybe we can figure something better and more appealing for the future occasions.

The general meeting of the Finnish Society was held on April 5, 1977 at the home of Mr. and Mrs. P. Sipari. The turnout wasn't all that terrific but all the items at hand were dealt with and the meeting adjourned about 11 p.m.

The executive will meet on May 11th, 1977 at the home of Mr. and Mrs. L. Kuusela. The meeting will start at 7:30 p.m.

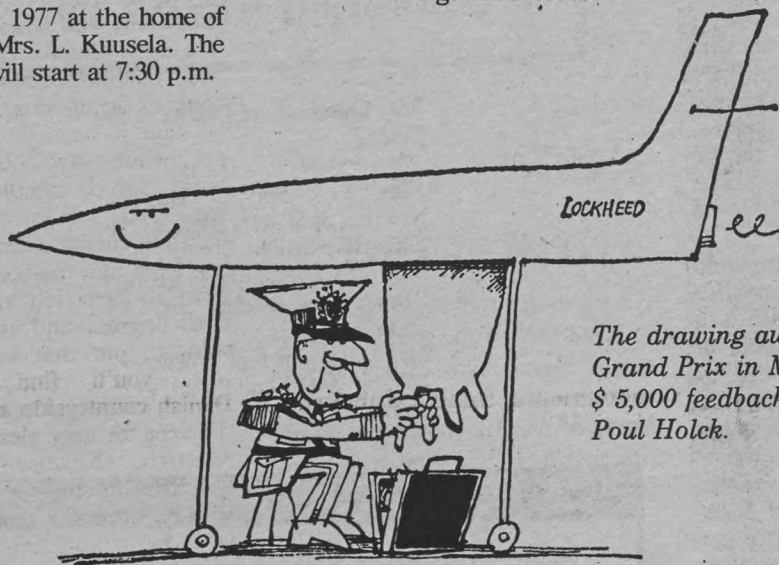
ties. You can even choose a family with children the same age as your own so that your youngsters are assured of playmates during this unique vacation. Golf, tennis, horseback riding and interesting sightseeing are usually nearby. The minimum farm stay is seven days, and the peak season, full-board rate is about \$12 a day per person, with lower rates for children under 12.

If you bicycle - and increasing numbers of North Americans of all ages do - you can add an extra dimension by taking a bicycle tour of Denmark, again not so much for its economy as for its camaraderie. Denmark is ideal bicycle country with a gently rolling landscape that rarely requires strenuous peddling or pushing. Danish tourist offices in 100 towns, in cooperation with local firms, can arrange for bicycle rentals. In some towns, you can rent a bike at the railroad station and return it to the station in another city. There are also 17 different organized tours

A Tall Story from Norway

The Norwegian coastal express boat leaves Bergen unfailingly every evening throughout the year from North Cape and back. This 11 day round voyage is probably the most popular boat trip in the whole of Europe, and is always heavily booked.

This story concerns one of the 18 ships, where the skipper and chief mate had been sailing together for the last 15 years. The chief mate noticed that whenever the skipper went on duty, he stopped at the foot of the ladder and looked in a little black book he kept in his hip pocket. This went on for 15 years, but one day the skipper did not turn up for duty - and the chief mate found him dead in his bunk. The chief mate could not contain himself, but fished out the skipper's black book, and saw there were only two lines written on the inside page, and the lines read as follows: "Starboard means to the right; Port means to the left"!



The drawing awarded le Grand Prix in Montreal, and a \$ 5,000 feedback to cartoonist Poul Holck.

Poul Holck's bread and butter lies in the offices of Politiken, one of the two leading Danish dailies published in Copenhagen, and it was for Politiken that Holck penned his wordless comment to the Lockheed affair.

of from three to nine days, which usually call for unhurried cycling of only 25 to 30 miles a day. Bicycle rentals are \$1.50 to \$3.50 a day; tour costs range from \$30 for three days, half board, in Central Jutland, to \$172 for seven days, full board, exploring six South Funen islands.

Even cosmopolitan Copenhagen offers visitors a sense of intimacy, whether it's in shopping or the evening's entertainment. Copenhagen now has several exclusively pedestrian streets, closed to vehicular traffic. The most notable is Stroget, a chain of five narrow, winding streets with some of the capital's finest shops. Other newly closed streets nearby are famed for their many bookstores, antique shops and 18th century houses.

Regular sightseeing tours in Copenhagen still include behind-the-scenes visits to the factories producing famed Danish

silver, china, other craft items and furs and to schools and homes representative of the country's advanced social welfare system.

At night, in spite of everything you still haven't spoken to a Dane, you can at least sing along with him at the famed Lorry Beer Garden, which has a floor show, or at the friendly Vin & Olgod, whose name means "wine and good beer." Singing together usually leads to talking together.

Of course, no mention of Copenhagen can ignore Tivoli, the famed amusement park whose magical atmosphere is conducive to good fellowship, day or night. The pity is, it's only open from May to mid-September.

Lists of attractions and facilities that offer a cozy view of Denmark are available by writing to the Danish National Tourist Office, 75 Rockefeller Plaza, New York, N.Y. 10019.

First mobile Norwegian Customs Station

Norway's first mobile customs station has now come into operation. A specially adapted van with a seating capacity for eight and sleeping capacity for four custom officers, with full office facilities, various technical devices, a mobile telephone and a microfilm machine - all of which cost 150,000 kroner, has been built. It will patrol unmanned Swedish-Norwegian roads.

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Cont'd from page 10

The "Kro" is always good for a delicious meal in a romantic setting, and those with overnight accommodations offer simple but comfortable facilities at attractive rates. A double with bath costs \$15 to \$34, but the inn's location and cozy atmosphere are its main attractions. Still, if you insist on all modern conveniences, Denmark has some 40 motels and country hotels scattered about, with prices naturally a bit higher.

The vacation experience that offers the most intimate view of Danish life is the Danish farm. Here you share the farm family's home and table and get free rein of their land; and like a regular member of the family you tidy up your own room. The farms are all inspected and approved by the local tourist association and have modern facilities.



JOHN ROBERTS SECRETARY OF STATE BIOGRAPHY

John Roberts, Secretary of State of Canada and Member of Parliament for the Toronto Riding of St. Paul's was born in Hamilton on Nov. 28, 1933 and raised in Toronto. He was educated at Hillcrest Public School, Oakwood Collegiate, University College at the University of Toronto, (where he won the Breuls Gold Medal for studies in political science upon graduation in 1955); the Ecole Nationale d'Administration in Paris and Oxford University, where he obtained a doctorate.

Mr. Roberts lectured at the University of Toronto and in 1963, became a foreign service officer with the Department of External Affairs, serving as an advisor to the Canadian Embassy in Paris. From 1966 to 1968 he was executive assistant to Maurice Sauve, then Minister of Forestry and Rural Development.

In 1968 he was elected to the House of Commons representing the riding of York-Simcoe. He served as Chairman of the House of Commons Committee on the Official Languages Act and as Chairman of the House of Commons Sub-Committee on Peacekeeping and the United Nations. In 1971 he was appointed Parliamentary Secretary to Jean Marchand then Minister for Regional Economic Expansion.

Mr. Roberts became Program Secretary to Prime Minister Pierre Elliott Trudeau in January 1973 and left that position in mid-1973 to do private consulting work and to lecture at McMaster University in Hamilton.

He was returned to the House of Commons as the member for St. Paul's in the general election of 1974. He was appointed Secretary of State on September 15, 1976.

Mr. Roberts is married to photographer Beverly Rockett. He and his family live in Toronto.

THE VISBY FESTIVAL mid-July to mid-August attracts visitors from all over the world to Sweden's Gotland Island. It features "Petrus de Dacia" a musical medieval pageantry staged among the impressive ruins of a 13th century church.

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May 15, - Evening Service-8 p.m.-Danish with Pastor Overgaard-Thomsen as guest. Coffee and fellowship following the Service.

May 22-11 a.m.-English.

May 29-10 a.m. Confirmation Service - 11:30 a.m.-Confirmation Service (both services in English).

Log cabin holiday in Norway

A family holiday in a Norwegian log cabin is probably one of the most inexpensive vacations available in Europe this year-summer and winter. And if it is linked with the rental of an automobile, your log cabin can also serve as a centre for interesting excursions and day trips.

According to Scandinavian Airlines, many privately owned log cabins are available for rental for short or long periods. They are situated in the mountain ranges, or in the Fjord Country, or on the sunny south coast, with great scope for walking tours, trout fishing, bathing and boating. Private log cabins are generally equipped, but linen and cutlery should be brought. However, there is seldom running water, and almost always outdoor sanitation.

The leading rental specialists in Norway publish an annual catalog of available log cabins. For information and reservations, write to: Norwegian Fjord Chalets, Bryggen 2, N-5000, Bergen, Norway.

Some hotels in Norway also own a number of log cabins, where guests may live having their meals at the hotel. Each cabin sleeps from 4 to 8 persons.

Modern log cabins are even available within the boundaries of the capital city. There is a series of log cabins for rental at Bogstad Camping, reached by bus in half-an-hour from Oslo City Hall. Each log cabin sleeps 4 or 5 persons. All have electric central heating, a kitchenette, and modern furniture of Scandinavian design. The price per log cabin per night is very inexpensive. Write to Bogstad Camping, Bogstad, Oslo.

There are also some other vacation suggestions which are unique for Norway such as empty farm-houses in the Setesdal mountain valley, fishermen's primitive wooden dwellings in the Lofoten Isles in the Land of the Midnight Sun, boat-houses at Fertkingstad village on Karmoy Island, and fishermen's dwellings at Bjornund fishing hamlet near Molde.



Danish Delights. Morning sightseeing in Aarhus, Denmark, where children are enjoying the monument of Denmark's most successful animal - the Danish pig - supplying bacon and ham to the world.

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NOTICE

SPECIAL GENERAL MEETING OF SHAREHOLDERS

WEDNESDAY, MAY 4, 1977

at the Scandinavian Centre

for the purpose of presenting a
Proposal on expansion in accordance
with the motion passed at the Annual
General Meeting on March 2, 1977

May Calendar of Events at the
Centre

May 4 - Special General
Meeting of Shareholders to talk
about Expansion.

May 14 - Danish Society
"Dania" is holding an Old-
Time Dance.

May 17 - Sons of Norway is
holding a Syttende Mai Cele-
bration

SONS OF NORWAY

Celebrates

NORWAY'S CONSTITUTION DAY

On TUESDAY, MAY 17, 1977

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9:00 - Dancing

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Bar 6:30 p.m. - Dinner 7:30 p.m.

MENU:

Gravlax (Salmon marinated in dill) with flat bread.
Fish Soup
Roast Saddle of Lamb with Gravy
Oven Roasted Potatoes
Green Peas
Sweet and Sour Red Cabbage
Dessert: Skyr; Vinarterta.
Coffee